

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 17-30, 44-46, 48, 49, 52, 54, 56, 59, 63, 66, 77, 79, 100, 102, 104 and 111-123 are pending in the present application. Claims 7, 19, 21-26, 30, 44, 66, 77, 79, 100, and 104 are currently amended, claim 102 is canceled, and claims 120-123 are new. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification and in the originally-filed claims. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

According to the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 17-30, 44-46, 48, 49, 52, 54, 56, 59, 63, 66, 77, 79, 100, 102, 104 and 111-119 are directed to multiple species which lack unity of invention under PCT Rule 13.1 (Office Action, p. 2). Accordingly, Applicants are required to elect of a single species from among (i) a composition of formula Ia, and (ii) a composition of the formula set forth on page 2, which corresponds to formula III of the specification.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute the species of claim 79, wherein L is a monoclonal antibody against the CD30 antigen and p is 4. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 17-21, 27, 54, 63, 66, 79, 100, 111-121, and 123 read on the elected species. It is Applicants' understanding that the examiner will search and examine the subject matter of claims 22-26, 28-30, 44-46, 48, 49, 52, 56, 59, 77, 104 and 122 if claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 17-21, 27, 54, 63, 66, 79, 100, 111-121, and 123 are found allowable over the prior art.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request prompt examination on the merits. If the examiner believes that a personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. Favorable consideration and an early notice of allowance are respectfully requested.

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